GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6892
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2000
BONDED LABOUR
SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether bonded labourers are still working in some States;

(b) if so, the steps taken to identify them;

(c) the arrangement made for their suitable rehabilitation;

(d) the fund earmarked for the purpose in Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(e) the fund spent on the rehabilitation of bonded labourers in Eighth Five Year Plan?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL)

(a) : Incidence of bonded labour, in a few parts of the country, has been reported by the State Governments from time to time.

(b) : As per sec.13 of the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976 Vigilance Committees have been constituted by the State Governments at District and Sub-Divisional levels for the purpose of identification and release of bonded labourers.

(c) : Financial assistance, under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, is provided by the Central Government to the State Governments to the extent of Rs.5000/- per bonded labourer on matching contribution (50:50) basis for rehabilitation of bonded labourers. With a view to ensuring that the bonded labourers are rehabilitated on a permanent basis, the State Governments have been advised to suitably integrate/dovetail the Centrally Sponsored Scheme with other anti-poverty programmesunder Swarn Jayanti S wa Rojgar Yojna (SJSRY), Special Component Plan for Scheduled Caste and Tribal Sub-plan of the State Governments so as to pool and integrate the resources avialable under different schemes.

(d) : An amount of Rs.20 crore has been earmarked under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for rehabilitationof bonded labour during the Ninth Five Year Plan.

(e) : An amount of Rs.523.46 lakh has been released by the Central Government to the various State Governments for rehabilitation of bonded labour during the Eight Five Year Plan.